

Your prayers are asked for all those who are sick, bereaved or in need of God's special help, especially:

Sick:

Circle of prayer: Sue Jeans, Georgina Tanner, David Longbourne, Ken Toms.

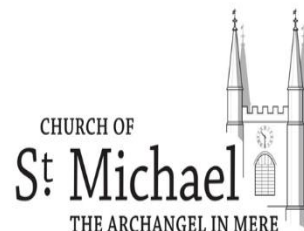
RIP: Peter Platt-Higgins, Peter Robert Gray, Hilary Christine Norman

Years Mind: Alexander Rodger, Carol Kathleen Wase, Ivy Hollindale,

The CHURCH FETE 2024: Due to the work being done on the church tower and the launch of the Church Tower Stories Project, the PCC has decided that the Fete will not be held in the usual format this year. Instead it is hoped to hold smaller events – cream teas, cake, plant and book sales etc at various times in the Spring and Summer. To avoid clashes with Tower Stories events, a Co-Ordinator is needed to tie things together (not run events themselves) and to encourage folk to think of ways of replacing the monies the Fete raises. If you can help please call Penny Fraser (861017) or Ann Devick (863498)

You are welcome to add the names of people who are ill to the prayer list, but please be sure you have the person's permission and let us know if they would like a phone call.

Lay Ministers:	Mrs Jane Hurd	01747 860218
	Mrs Christine Marsh	01747 861212
Churchwardens:		
Mere	Mr Richard Wilson	07966 244373
	Mr Kit Stallard	07803 086161
West Knoyle	Mrs Jill Randall	01747 830534
	Lord Colin Seaford	01747 830263
Administrator:	administrator@stmichaelsmere.org.uk	
	07942 291266	
Website:	www.stmichaelsmere.org.uk	
Facebook:	St Michael's Church, Mere	
Pew sheet items to	colin2423@sky.com	



The Sunday next before Lent

St Michael's, Mere

11th February, 2024

Next week's services at St Michael's, 18th February 2024

10.30am : Parish Communion

Tuesday 13th February at 7.30pm: Shrove Tuesday Quiz and Pancake Evening in aid of Suchana in the Grove Building. Entry list at back of Church.

Wednesday 14th February at 10.30 am: Ash Wednesday service.

Tuesday 20th February at 6.30pm: Launch meeting at the Church for The Tower Stories. Hear the stories and have Mere's incredible community programme for 2024-25 explained. All welcome and please tell your friends.

New Serving Rota: A new rota is due for March to May 24. This period includes Maunday Thursday on 28th March. If there are times you can't make or duties you'd like to change, let Ross Thompson know by Sunday 18th February.

Music Machine: The drop in quality is not due to the operators but the machine is faulty. Please bear with as we are trying to get it back up to standard.

Please Can You Help: Volunteers are needed to join our team of Vergers For Weddings. You would only be called on occasionally and full 'training' would be given. The job entails attending the rehearsal and on the day, helping to make the wedding go smoothly. A fee of £25 is paid. Call Penny Fraser (861017) or Ann Devick (863498) for more information.

2 Kings 2.1-12

Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.' Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.' Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

2 Corinthians 4.3-6

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Mark 9.2-9

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!' Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

Collect

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Post Communion

Holy God, we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ: may we who are partakers at his table reflect his life in word and deed, that all the world may know his power to change and save. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.